

LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)
An Independent Newspaper

FRANK H. APPELBY Editor and Publisher
HARVEY F. MATTHEWS Business Manager
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OFFICIAL PAPER OF UNION COUNTY AND THE CITY OF LA GRANDE

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THE GOD OF OUR FATHERS—And he blessed Joseph, and said, God, before whom my fathers * * * did walk, the God which rest me, all my life long * * * The angel which redeemed me * * * bless the lads * * * and let them grow into a multitude.—Gen. 48:15-16.

Did you ever see a man get out of breath running in response to the call of duty?

What a difference it will make in the appearance of Adams avenue when all wire poles are removed and put in the alleys! It is an improvement that will be accomplished in the next few months.

While New York suffers in the clutches of a blizzard and all the area east of the Rockies begins to recover from the most severe winter of recent years, the Grande Ronde Valley gets a flurry of snow and a downpour of rain and progresses rapidly toward spring. Why go to Florida?

The Observer always welcomes communications to the Open Court column on subjects of importance presented with a serious appreciation for the community's welfare. We require that all such letters be signed and known to us as an indication of good faith, though the signatures may be withheld from print when circumstances warrant. Letters received by the editor that are not signed are promptly consigned to the waste basket. Anonymous sources of news are objectionable for the same reasons.

PIONEER STORY CONTEST.

The effort of Supt. Sayre to secure historical data of the various communities of Union county through the Essay Contest announced by his office last week is one that should meet with general response in every corner of the county. It will produce a wealth of interesting material picturing early days and early accomplishments in the Grande Ronde valley, material that will have increasing value as time goes on.

For the children of the schools over the county, especially those who take an interest in English, no more attractive contest could be devised. No one is more thrilled with pioneer stories than a school child, no one is more capable of asking pointed questions that will draw out the most interesting material, and no one is more capable of presenting that data in a way that will appeal to the average reader and to future generations. Stories of the trip across the plains, of Indians, of early hardships, of early development in the various communities of the country—it is stories of this kind that will be preserved when ordinarily they would be lost with the passing of the last pioneers.

The stories to be written will be doubly valuable because the rules of the contest require that the information be first-hand, that the child get his or her material from someone who saw or experienced the incidents related. The result will be a source-book of the first magnitude. Although this requirement may at first seem difficult, there are one or more citizens still living in every district of the county who can supply material in great quantities. These remaining pioneers are fully impressed with the importance of the days to be recorded and though it will require some of their time and patience in giving material to children writing for the contest, yet no one could be more willing to help than they are. They appreciate the effort being made.

An example of the interesting information available for contestants was given in The Observer's recent interview with Mrs. Gangloff, in which some of the earliest days of the valley were pictured. It is from such pioneers that materials can be secured for a great number of interesting stories dealing with the early history of Union county. The Observer, in offering cash prizes for the winners in the various classes, seeks to reward the most worthy effort, to emphasize the importance of early history as an influence on the present, and to encourage the children in the study of the making of a great state. We anticipate for Mr. Sayre a most gratifying response.



OFFICE CAT
By *Jenius*

Everything is higher these days—even blood pressure.

It would be interesting to know what a mouse, hard pressed for refuge, would do if he met a girl wearing a modern skirt and escorted by a male wearing Oxford bags.

Some of these people who claim to belong to the "49ers" are merely one of the ciphers.

No woman ever won a bridge prize that was as good as the one she gave at her party.

WORDS THAT DON'T MEAN ANYTHING
Nothing.
Prohibition.
"I am pleased to meet you."
Stop, Look, and Listen!
"I will serve the people to the best of my ability."
"Come again, noon."
"I will pay you Saturday morn."
Love, honor, and obey.
Miss America.
"Till death do us part!"

When She "Pets"
If her sorority "pets," she "pets," and the male half of the campus knows her as "a hot little number, hey?" If her group refrains from "petting" for policy's sake, she remains slightly aloof when her friend crowds a bit too close, and she is known in fraternity halls as "a dam' good all-round girl." Of course she smokes and now and then sips a bit of throat-scorching hooch from a silver hip flask—it is a very ordinary procedure and, in fact, expected.

Now, to the sophisticated mind, these things are not a bit shocking. But here in the hick Mary considers herself a "college student" and is so considered by others. John readily admits that he is a "college student."

Back in East Butteville papa and mama are proud to refer to their offspring as a "college student."

The term is a misnomer. John and Mary are no more students than Henry the Eighth was a woman hater. John and Mary are merely collegiates, certainly not "students."

John can tell you all about the works of Zane Grey, and Mary is well acquainted with the current "Confessional" literature, but neither knows nor cares a whit about Henry Menckon, Carl Van Vechten, Edgar Lee Masters, Joseph Conrad, Sinclair Lewis, Habelman, Ben Jonson, James Branch Cabell, John Galsworthy, Robert Herrick, Rupert Brooke, etc., etc. To speak of Greig Wagner or Chopin is to open oneself to the danger of being classed as "highbrow." Radio, Aubrey Beardsley and Sargent are unknown.

There are, of course, the outcasts, the thinking minority. Circumstances force them together. Invariably they are known as "the radicals." Sometimes they are rebels. It is true, but the college rebel is not possessed with a rebellious heart. He merely wants to poke into things for himself—cut-and-dried pedantry is obnoxious to him.

Degrees Are Easy.
It is not at all difficult to obtain a degree from the universities in Middle America—on the contrary it is almost unbelievably easy. Like stray curs into the sausage machine our young people are tossed into the colleges, atmosphere like the dogs they must needs conform to the steel lines of the machine; and, like the dogs also, they emerge from the machine at the end of four years in strings of new little link sausages, all alike, hopelessly alike.

The courses in a modern, middle western university are designed for the dumbbell. The obvious is always insisted upon. Simple, patent facts are emphasized. And those Johns and Marys labor under the delusion that they are becoming educated, cultured.

One can hardly blame the poor

boundary question and the proposed ornamental street lighting system.

An ordinance changing the fire limits in La Grande was read three times and passed. An emergency clause makes it effective immediately.

May Install Stop Signs.
A communication from W. Ballons, of the O.-W., second division, agreed that stop signs for automobiles on each side of the railroad tracks and a speed limit of eight miles an hour would do away with any chance of accidents at the crossing. The matter was referred to the city manager.

A petition was received for the vacation of the alley in Block 48, Chaplin's addition.

An estimate for \$517.50 in favor of Hardenbower brothers, for work on the sewage disposal plant, was allowed and final bills and estimates for some work on the pits.

COMMISSION OF FIVE IS PETITIONED

(Continued from Page One.)

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building work needed and estimated paid by warrants. Monthly reports were laid over until next Wednesday night, when the commission meets again in regular session.

Pupils Says Universities Only 'Varnishing Plants'

(Continued from Page One.)

men's varnishing works where one learns to dance, play bridge and poker, carry a load of alcohol gracefully, and, incidentally, to invent clever excuses for undone work. It is a convenient place to which John and Mary may go from East Butteville in order to have the rough edges and sharp corners smoothed down and sandpapered.

John dons a pair of wide pants, a checkered necktie, and becomes "collegiate." Mary learns from the "activities" the proper fork to use, the technique of a moonlight date, and her education is complete.

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professor. It is what "John and Mary" wish, what their parents wish. Classes are meant to be only slight, unpleasant interruptions in the social whirl.

Over half of the people in our colleges should not be there. They have neither the inclination nor the capacity for a rigorous course of study.

Our universities need a general housecleaning. They should be cleared of the rubbish of athletics, fraternities and societies, and four o'clock dates. Then, perhaps, we should have educational institutions comparable to such old world universities as Cambridge, Oxford and Heidelberg. Until then, the modern college student will remain a doll.

I want to mention a remark once made by Bob Ingersoll. He said, in substance, that colleges were places where pebbles were polished and diamonds were dimmed. And, as usual, he was right! (Copyright, 1926, NEA Service, Inc.)

Lovers of Robert Burns In Atlanta Have Own Cottage

ATLANTA, Ga. (AP)—The memory of Scotland's famous bard, Robert Burns, is commemorated here by a club formed of admirers and lovers of the great Scotch poet. An exact replica of the cottage at Ayr in which Burns lived, was built by the club where it holds monthly literary meetings. The cottage walls are covered with ivy brought from Scotland. The interior, plainly furnished to show



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IF YOU COULD ONLY SEE under a powerful magnifying glass the construction of your own back, some you would understand why we call it "The Index of Health." The condition of these bones, their position one to another, determines your physical condition. Let us show you in person. It will place you under no obligation. Electrical Treatments given.
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Special VALENTINE Boxes OF WHITMAN CANDLES \$1.50 to \$5

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Here is an assemblage of coats—each model distinctive and individual. You want your coat to be distinctive and different—you want smartness, too—for smartness is never ordinary. "La Grande's Leading Store" is ready to serve you this Spring as in the past 25 years, only affording you a larger selection. Coats of Twill, Tweed, Camel's Hair, Covert and novelty Home-spuns, in a bevy of new colors.

\$16.75 to \$75

New Bags Charming new pouch-shaped bags in new colors and leather. Also cases and beaded bags, envelope and beaded bags to complete your Spring costume. \$2.50 to \$25.00	Umbrellas Beautiful bordered and plaid silk umbrellas in slim models so popular now. Many of them in 16 rib styles. All colors and combination colors are here for your approval. \$3.90 to \$14.00
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N. K. West & Co. Inc.

La Grande's Leading Store For 25 Years.

low Burns blood, contains numerous relics, mementos and pictures.
The club first came into existence in 1898.
About the time a man begins to enjoy himself he needs a shave again.

Hall's Catarrh Medicine has been successful in the treatment of Catarrh for over forty years. Also as a Blood Purifier it gives wonderful results. All Druggists.
S. I. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

THE REASON WHY
The thrifty man is never forced to make a bad bargain because he has "earned" his MONEY and CREDIT—therefore, he is independent and self-reliant. He is not a miser but a wise spender and a good citizen.
A Savings Account in this bank is a sound investment and a start on the road to independence.
La Grande National Bank
Sound - Reliable - Progressive

Infants' and Children's Wearables
WE BUY LARGE QUANTITIES OF BEST GRADE MERCHANDISE AT A RANGE OF PRICES THAT ENABLES US TO GIVE YOU THE BEST VALUES AT LOWEST PRICES.
Ask for Free Valentines and Seeds.
Norton's Kiddy Shop
PLEATING - STAMPING - EMBROIDERING
BUTTONS COVERED and BUTTON HOLES

LOOK OVER OUR WANT ADS FOR BARGAINS

Shopping By Telephone
Is economically and promptly done with our service. Telephone buying has become a pleasant habit with thousands of people.
Home Independent Telephone Co.



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Listen to me. We have over red high quality paint for \$1.50 per gallon; linseed oil at \$1.35; white lead at \$16.50 per hundred; and some crackleback 2x12 tie planks that make barn floors, \$19 per M. Good new stock. We can furnish you anything that you need in the building line from a brick to a cedar shingle. This is about all that my brain can muster up at one time, so I will close.
Hoping to have an early reply,
I am
Yours very truly,
Claude C. Pratt
Lumber Co.
"The Pony Man's Friend"
Near Foundry. Phone Main 218
No Sunday Business.

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La Grande's Leading Firm
Established 1896
W. H. BOHNENKAMP CO.



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WRIGLEY'S P.K.
in the New Handy Pack is the biggest value in long-lasting flavorful enjoyment that you can buy.
It is the best Peppermint Chewing Sweet for any money. Handy Pack fits hand, pocket and purse.
Look for WRIGLEY'S P.K. Handy Pack on your Dealer's Counter